of 3 per cent of teaching and non-teaching post for employment is also to be made for persons with disabilities in these institutions according to the provisions of the said Act. Norms are relaxed for persons with disabilities for admission to engineering/technical courses and 5 per cent relaxation in marks at the master's level is also given to them for appearing in National Eligibility Test (NET) Examination of the University Grants Commission (UGC). The Commission also takes into account whether a particular institution is properly implementing the provisions of the Act mentioned above, in respect of reservation for the persons with disability, while granting development assistance to such an institution.

Advanced admissions in technical institutions and universities

*559. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been complaints that technical institutions and universities, including deemed universities are making admissions well before the start of the academic year, collecting full fee and retaining the certificates, in a bid to prevent students from moving out elsewhere;

(b) whether the time-limit for joining courses is being advanced, thereby restricting the options available to students, who tend to take up what comes first; and

(c) what steps are being taken to redress those complaints?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that institutions and universities including deemed to be universities are admitting students to technical education programmes long before the actual starting of an academic session, collecting full fees and retaining the certificates in original in order to prevent students from moving out to some other institution. This Ministry issued a directive to All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and University Grants Commission (UGC) directing them to instruct institutions and universities under their control that no institution should keep in their custody and originals of any school or college certificates and that in case a student withdraws before the starting of a course, the entire fees collected from the student should be refunded after a deduction of a processing fee of not more than Rupees one thousand. It also stated that any violation of the above instructions issued by the AICTE/UGC should call for a punitive action including withdrawal of approval and recognition of erring institutions/universities UGC and AICTE had accordingly issued necessary instructions to all the institutions under their control. Ministry also had given advice to the Central Educational Institutions to follow the above stipulation. The AICTE had also issued Public Notices to the above effect in leading national dailies and have also placed it on their website (wwe.aicte.ernet.in).

Appointment of Notaries

*560. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of corruption in the appointment of Central Notaries Public have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the steps taken by Government to uproot corruption and to bring transparency in such appointments;

(d) the number of candidates, who applied for and were appointed as Notary Public in various States, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, during the last five years, State-wise;

(e) the number of applications rejected along with the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the number of notaries in some States is inadequate, and

(g) if so, the steps taken by Government to appoint apropriate number of notaries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Notaires are appointed strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Notaries Act, 1952 and the Notaries Rules, 1956.

(d) A State-wise statement showing the number of cadidates, who had applied and been appointed as Notary Public during the last five years is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(e) 14 application have been rejected during the last one year. 12 applications have been rejected since the applicants were not possessing required experience at the Bar for being appointed as a Notary. Two applications have been rejected since applications of the applicants for appointment as a notary were pending before the respective State Governments.

(f) and (g) The Notaries are appointed strictly in accordance with the Notaries Act and the Notaries Rules, 1956. The maximum number of notaries to be appointed by the Central Government and State Governments has been specified in the Schedule to the Notaries Rules, 1956. Requests from the State Governments for enhancement of the maximum number of Notaries prescribed already, are considered and in appropriate cases the Central Government enhances the maximum number of notaries by amending the Schedule to the Notaries Rules, 1956.

Statement

The details or numbers of candidates who had applied and were appointed as Notary Public during the last five years.

State/U.T. Admns.	The number of candidates who applied for and were appointed as Notary Public in various States, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, during the last five years, State-wise.
1	2
Andaman and Nicobar	—
Andhra Pradesh	98
Arunachal Pradesh	—
Assam	01
Bihar	08
Chandigarh	19
Chhattisgarh	04

1	2
Delhi	111
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—
Daman and Diu	—
Goa	02
Gujarat	252
Himachal Pradesh	03
Haryana	375
Jharkhand	02
Jammu and Kashmir	—
Kerala	186
Karnataka	276
Lakshadweep	—
Meghalaya	—
Maharashtra	586
Manipur	—
Mizoram	—
Madhya Pradesh	26
Nagaland	—
Orissa	04
Punjab	316
Pondicherry	07
Rajasthan	159
Sikkim	—
Tamil Nadu	157
Tripura	01
Uttar Pradesh	548
Uttaranchal	07
West Bengal	25

Promotion of fishery industries in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

3998. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of food processing industries established in Andaman and Nicobar islands to promote fishery industries;

(b) the present status thereof;

(c) whether any proposal for setting up of new industries is under consideration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Ministry of Food Processing